



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE
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Testimony Regarding House Bill 7126

AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES

Senators Larson and Kelly, Representative Scanlon, and distinguished members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 7126, An Act Concerning Transportation Network Companies. My name is Garrett Eucalitto, and I am the Undersecretary for Transportation, Conservation and Development at the Office of Policy and Management (OPM).

OPM recognizes the interest in allowing the continued operation of Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) in Connecticut. This is a new business model, with the potential to complement our public transit systems, the existing taxi and livery options, and other paratransit transportation solutions. Connecticut is not alone in its efforts to try to address the advent of TNCs. Last year OPM testified in opposition to TNC legislation in this committee due to concerns that the legislation only addressed the insurance aspects of the TNC industry. This year, we are encouraged by the committee's efforts to prepare a comprehensive bill that addresses both the insurance issues as well as the questions of how to regulate this industry.

Following the legislative session, through the latter half of 2016, OPM convened informal working group sessions consisting of Commissioners and staff from several state agencies, representatives of the taxi and livery industry and the two major TNC companies. While we did not reach consensus on every item, the effort provided value by opening a dialog that previously did not exist and led many of us, at state agencies, to think critically about certain outdated regulations, statutes, and other restrictions on the taxi and livery industry that could be removed.

While we support the general concept of this bill and much of its content, we do have some concerns with the bill as drafted. We recognize the importance of this issue, and we look forward to continuing the discussion and working with both legislators and industry leaders to find consensus on the best way forward.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony. If you have any questions, you may contact me at 860-524-7363 or garrett.eucalitto@ct.gov.